

GENOA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
Regular Meeting
July 20, 2026

MINUTES

Call to Order

Supervisor Spicher called the regular meeting of the Genoa Charter Township Board to order at 6:30 pm at the Township Hall.

Invocation

Supervisor Spicher led the invocation for the Board and the members of the public.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

The following members were present constituting a quorum for the transaction of business: Kevin Spicher, Candie Hovarter, Robin Hunt, Bill Reiber, Rick Soucy, Jodie Valenti, and Todd Walker.

Also present was Township Manager Kelly VanMarter, Planning Director Amy Ruthig, and 11 people in the audience.

Call to the Public

The call to the public was opened at 6:32 pm.

Rodney, who lives in Prentice Estates Apartments, is having problems with Tap-Ins. They are a nuisance with the noise. The township is working with him to resolve the issue. The Sheriff's office told him they will not help because they are not being paid by the township. He is reaching decibel levels of 60-80 inside his home until 10 or 11 pm.

The call to the public was closed at 6:34 pm.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Ms. Hunt noted that "**Ms.** Grajek" should be changed to "**Mr.** Grajek" in the minutes.

Ms. Hovarter questioned the charge to the Blue Frog T-Shirt Store. Mr. Soucy stated it is for the early-voting staff. This will identify them to the public when they come to vote.

Moved by Soucy, supported by Valenti, to approve the Consent Agenda with the one change to the minutes as noted. **The motion carried unanimously.**

1. **Payment of Bills: July 20, 2026**
2. **Request to approve the July 6, 2026 regular meeting minutes**
3. **Request to approve a project agreement with the Livingston County Road Commission for the Grand Beach No. 3 (Rink Drive, Simon Drive, and Mahinske Drive) road rehabilitation project with the Township's cost to not exceed \$240,000.**
4. **Request to approve a project agreement with the Livingston County Road Commission for the Herbst Estates (Lindsey Drive) road rehabilitation project with the Township's cost to not exceed \$60,000.**

Approval of Regular Agenda:

Moved by Hunt, supported by Soucy, to approve the Regular Agenda as presented. **The motion carried unanimously.**

5. **Request for review and approval of a Certificate of License to conduct an outdoor assembly not to exceed 2,500 attendees on August 8, 2026 from 12:00pm to 3:00pm for the "Vet Fest 2026" event to be located at Cleary University, 3750 Cleary Drive, Howell, Michigan 48443. The request is petitioned by VetLife.**

Ms. VanMarter stated there are some outstanding issues to address prior to the event that staff will be working on with the applicant and the fire department.

Moved by Reiber, supported by Walker, to approve a Certificate of License to conduct an outdoor assembly not to exceed 2,500 attendees on August 8, 2026 from 12:00pm to 3:00pm for the "Vet Fest 2026" event to be located at Cleary University, 3750 Cleary Drive, Howell, Michigan 48443 conditioned upon the applicant providing all required information. **The motion carried unanimously.**

6. **Request for approval of Resolution #1 to Proceed with the Project and Direct Preparation of the Plans and Cost Estimates for the Grand Beach Lake Aquatic Weed Control Special Assessment Project (winter tax 2026). (Roll Call)**

Ms. VanMarter provided a review of the project.

Moved by Hunt, supported by Walker, to approve Resolution #1 to proceed with the project and direct preparation of the Plans and Cost Estimates for the Grand Beach Lake Aquatic Weed Control Special Assessment Project (winter tax 2026). **The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote (Reiber - yes; Hunt - yes; Valenti - yes; Hovarter - yes; Walker - yes; Soucy - yes; Spicher - yes)**

7. **Request for approval of Resolution #2 to Approve the Project, Schedule the First Hearing for August 3, 2026 and Direct Issuance of Statutory Notices for the Grand Beach Lake Aquatic Weed Control Special Assessment Project (winter tax 2026). (Roll Call)**

Moved by Soucy, supported by Walker, to approve Resolution #2 to approve the project, schedule the first hearing for August 3, 2026 and direct issuance of Statutory Notices for the Grand Beach Lake Aquatic Weed Control Special Assessment Project (winter tax 2026). **The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote (Hunt -yes; Valenti - yes; Hovarter - yes; Walker - yes; Reiber - yes; Soucy - yes; Spicher - yes)**

8. **Request for approval of the closed session minutes from July 6, 2026.**
 - A. **If necessary, consider motion to enter into closed session under the Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.268(1)(h) to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute. (Roll Call, requires 2/3 vote)**
 - B. **If necessary, consider motion to adjourn the closed session and reconvene in open session. (Roll Call)**

Each board member reviewed their copy of the minutes provided by Mr. Soucy.

Moved by Hunt, supported by Hovarter, to approve the closed session minutes from July 6, 2026 as presented. **The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote (Valenti - yes; Hovarter - yes; Walker - yes; Reiber - yes; Hunt - Soucy - yes; Spicher - yes)**

9. **Closed session to consult with the Township attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with Latson Partners et al v. Genoa Charter Township and Latson Beck et al v. Genoa Charter Township pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(e).**
 - A. **Consider motion to enter into closed session to consult with the Township attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(e). (Roll Call, requires 2/3 vote)**
 - B. **Consider motion to conclude the closed session and return to open session. (Roll Call)**

Moved by Reiber, supported by Hovarter, to enter into closed session to discuss the Latson Beck et al v. Genoa Charter Township issue. **The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote (Hovarter - yes; Walker- yes; Reiber- yes; Hunt - yes; Valenti - yes; Soucy- yes; Spicher - yes)**

The Board entered into the closed session at 6:51 pm.

Moved by Soucy, supported by Walker, to conclude the closed session and return to open session. **The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote (Walker - yes; Reiber - yes; Hunt - yes; Valenti - yes; Hovarter - yes; Soucy - yes; Spicher - yes)**

The Board concluded the closed session and returned to open session at 8:41 pm.

Board Comments

Mr. Soucy asked for information regarding the comment at the call to the public that said "...the township doesn't pay them". Supervisor Spicher believes he was referring to the dedicated officer. Ms. Hunt is disappointed that a sheriff's officer would tell a resident that. Supervisor Spicher will investigate that statement. Ms. VanMarter stated staff gave the resident the decibel meter and are working with him.

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Unapproved Minutes

Mr. Soucy stated that in 2024, Genoa Township paid \$24,000 to an outside company to certify all the township's election equipment. This year, it was done in house and cost under \$2,000 for all of the three elections. They have been certified by the Livingston County Clerk.

Mr. Walker stated a new fire truck will be delivered to BAFA the first week of August. The board approved the purchase of turn out gear for the firefighters. This equipment is custom fit for each person.

Mr. Soucy stated the ZBA had four cases at their meeting last week.

Ms. Valenti stated a lot of Genoa residents have been taking advantage of the township's vouchers for their membership to the Senior Center. Brighton Township has started providing vouchers also. There was a discussion about the timing of paying the senior center for their members. Ms. VanMarter stated she is investigating possible concerns about the township paying upfront for memberships.

Supervisor Spicher stated there will be a town hall meeting regarding transportation on August 5 at 6:30 pm at the township hall. Then on Wednesday, August 26, there will be a town hall meeting regarding housing also at 6:30 pm at the township hall. Both of these will be broadcasted.

Adjournment

Moved by Reiber, supported by Hovarter, to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 pm. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Patty Thomas, Recording Secretary

Approved: Rick Soucy, Clerk
Genoa Charter Township

Kevin Spicher, Supervisor
Genoa Charter Township